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EXAMINER

DAS, CHAMELI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2122

DATE MAILED: 11/20/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SM

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/316,040

Applicant(s)

Gillis

Examiner

Chameli Das

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on May 21, 1999

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the applica

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from considera

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-65 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirem

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1- 2, 4-15, 17, 19-22, 26-34, 36- 37, 39- 48, 50-54, 57, 59, 61, 63-65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Batch et al, US Patent No. 5,423,023.

As per claim 1, 36, 44, Batch et al teach **creation of software tool** is shown in ABSTRACT line 1-2 (“A user configurable system which **integrates and manages** a plurality of different tasks and **software tools**”), “integrates and manages software tools inherently including software tool creation method as claimed, **prompting input of process** is shown in column 4 line 50-67 (“ **input information may also be required from a user** for at least some tools. Such inputs may be data or control inputs or may be graphic waveform inputs. For data and control inputs, a rules list, written in an interpretive extension language, provides default inputs for each stage where such inputs are required for each tool. When a tool is at a stage where such inputs are required, the default inputs for such stage are displayed to the user. The user may make changes to the default inputs and the default inputs as modified by the user are communicated to the system or the tool. **The default input display may also prompt the user** as to items which the user must add as inputs at a given stage in-the tool, further operation of the tool being inhibited

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until the user makes such required inputs, and may also prompt the user as to optional items which the user may add as inputs at the given stage in the tool”) and column 8 line 40-46 (“also has the capability **to prompt the user for inputs** when inputs to a software tool being executed are required. It is possible to provide default inputs in many instances which will be utilized by the system if the user does not change these inputs, substantially simplifying the data input process for the user.”), plurality of selections associated with the steps is shown in column 6 line 46-52 (“The user might start the process by selecting "Create Design" from a suitable menu displayed on display 30 (step 50). This might cause a macro to be selected from store 28 in a manner to be described later which may perform certain housekeeping functions and might then result in the calling of an appropriate tool to "build schematic"”), storing input process associated selection is shown in column 3 line 23-30 (“A plurality of rule macros are also stored, each of the macros relating to the performance of a particular process. A process to be performed is inputted into the system either by a user or from a prior process and the macro corresponding to the process is retrieved. In response to the retrieval of the macro, tasks involving selected tools are executed in a predetermined sequence”), **create a software tool for outputting the input process** as claimed is shown in column 1 line 38-46 (“Currently, the **software tools** used to capture, verify, and analyze the performance of a design during the design phase, to lay out the design during the manufacturing engineering stage, to perform the various manufacturing steps during the manufacturing stage, and to test the various components of the end product during the

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testing stage are separate procedures, employed sequentially, **with the output from one tool or process providing the input to a subsequent process**").

As per claim 2, 37, 48, Batch et al teach prompting is performed by a displayed template is shown in column 4 line 60-62 ("The default input display may also prompt the user as to items which the user must add as inputs at a given stage in-the tool"), and column 25 line 66-68 and column 1-4, "element or component displayed to the user" inherently including display template as claimed.

As per claim 4, 26, 39, 50, Batch et al teach input of a designation is prompted and stored is shown in column 2 line 53-62 ("indicate by a suitable input a desired objective, and the system can proceed to perform in proper sequence the various tasks required to achieve such objective. Such tasks can include transferring necessary information from one software tool to the next and prompting the user for additional inputs where required"), and column 13 line 16-18 ("Section 94 of the store contains the dv rule files which are rule files for the entry of or translation of inputs to the system"), associating a potential selection with a subsequent process is shown in column 3 line 20-30.

As per claim 5, 27, Batch et al teach input of a character string is shown in column 17 line 10-14.

As per claim 6, Batch et al teach software tool is displayed is shown in column 11 line 41-48.

As per claim 7, 61, Batch et al teach software tool is displayed is shown in column 11 line 41-48, sequential process steps is shown in column 1 line 38-48.

As per claim 8, Batch et al teach single step as claimed is shown in column 30 line 54-68.

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As per claim 9 and 10, 28, 29, 40, 41, 51, 52, Batch et al teach query and answers to the query are prompted is shown in column 2 line 40-68 and column 3 line 1-11.

As per claim 11, 30, Batch et al teach storing the software tool is shown in column 33 line 3-5.

As per claim 12, 31, Batch et al teach software tool is modifiable is shown in column 21 line 30-35.

As per claim 13, 32, 42,53, Batch et al teach machine and non machine processing is shown in ABSTRACT line 14-19, “ including the macros used with the control routine, are written in an interpretive extension language which is both human (non machine) and machine readable (machine)”).

As per claim 14, 33, 34, 43, 54, 59, Batch et al teach input of information relating to the machine processing is prompted is shown in column 8 line 40-43, “tool begin executed” inherently including machine processing as claimed.

As per claim 15, Batch et al teach input process steps and prompts selection of a potential selection as claimed is shown in column 4 line 50-66.

For claim 17, see column 4 line 53-58.

As per claim 19, Batch et al teach sequentially outputs each of the input process is shown in column 37 line 14-20.

As per claim 20, Batch et al teach a user interface is shown in column 5 line 55-56, processor and memory is shown in column 21 line 63-65. For the rest of the limitations see the rejection of claim 1 above.

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As per claim 21, Batch et al teach user interface is displayed is shown in column 6 line 16-20.

As per claim 22, Batch et al teach user interface is an integrated input is shown in ABSTRACT.

As per claim 45, Batch et al teach signal is a digital signal is shown in column 8 line 61-66.

For claim 46 and 47, see column 4 line 67-68 and column 1-5.

As per claim 57, Batch et al teach creating the tool based upon the prestored information is shown in column 3 line 52-56, "existing macro" inherently including prestored information as claimed.

As per claim 63 and 64 Batch et al teach state transition table is shown in column 4 line 67-68 and column 5 line 1-6.

As per claim 65, Batch et al teach plurality of languages is shown in column 10 line 43-46.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3, 18, 23-25, 35, 38, 49, 58 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batch et al, US Patent No. 5,423,023.

As per claim 3, 24, 25, 38, 49, Batch et al do not specifically teach prompting is audible. Official notice is taken in prompting is audible is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to make

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the prompt audible because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to produce a sound allowing users to send or receive information efficiently.

As per claim 18, Batch et al teach sequentially outputs each of the input process is shown in column 37 line 14-20. Batch et al do not specifically teach audibly outputs. Official notice is taken in making the system audible is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to make the system audible because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to produce a sound allowing users to send or receive information efficiently.

As per claim 23, Batch et al do not teach touch screen. Official notice is taken in touch screen is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to make the touch screen because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to produce a system where the user can make a selection of the icon easily and efficiently.

As per claim 35, 62, Batch et al do not teach URL. Official notice is taken in URL is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to take URL because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to identify a resource (such as a file) from anywhere on the Internet.

As per claim 58, 60, Batch et al teach database is shown in column 26 line 5-6. However Batch et al do not specifically teach relational data base as claimed. Official notice is taken in relational database is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of the

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ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to make the database relational because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to find the information easily and efficiently.

5. Claims 16, 55-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Batch et al, US Patent No. 5,423,023 further in view of Fontana et al, US Patent No. 6,170,081.

As per claim 16, 55, 56, Batch et al teach creating a software tool is shown in ABSTRACT line 1-2. Batch et al do not specifically teach software tool is wizard. However, Fontana et al teach software tool is a wizard is shown in column 8 line 25-30. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to combine Batch's software tool with Fontana's wizard because one of the ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make the tool to perform an outstanding and creative task.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

TITLE: Tool-independent system for application building in an object oriented development environment with data stored in repository in OMG compliant UML representation, US 6018627

TITLE: Software update manager, US 6282709 B1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for storing templates in a component system, US 6182279 B1

TITLE: Method and apparatus for building templates in a component system, US 6093215 A

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TITLE: Microcontroller development tool using software programs, US 5852733 A

TITLE: Customizable application project generation process and system, US 5754858 A

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chameli Das whose telephone number is 703-306-3014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Kevin Teska can be reached at 703-305-9704. The fax number for this group is 703-746-7039. An inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.

C. DAS

11/5/01


KAKALI CHAKI
PRIMARY EXAMINER